

Advanced Metal Clay Series: Faux Cloisonné Enameled Jewelry Using Art Clay with Jackie Truty

POLISHING TO PERFECTION

Polishing Guide Enamels on Silver

Your piece is fired and you're ready for the finishing touches! Keep these pointers in mind to make your jewelry shine.



The First Tumbling (After the first firing, before adding enamels):

- POUR two pounds of stainless steel mixed-shape shot into the chamber of your rotary tumbler.
- FILL the chamber half to two-thirds full of water.
- ADD a squirt of Palmolive or other gentle dish soap.
- LEAVE to tumble for a minimum of 1 ½ hours.
- REMOVE and rinse your piece.
- ALTERNATIVELY, if you don't have a tumbler, you can use an agate burnisher to reduce the porosity of your piece. This will help the enamels to better adhere.
- Now you're ready to clean your piece before adding enamels.





The Final Tumbling (After firing the enamels)

- COOL your piece completely. Since you have fired the piece again with the enamels applied, the silver will have turned white.
- TUMBLE your piece again, using the same directions as above, for 20 to 30 minutes.
- ALTERNATIVELY, you can use an agate burnisher to polish your piece.
- IF NEEDED, use an alundum stone to grind down overfilled enamels. Flash-fire at 1450 degrees F for one minute, and then use an agate burnisher on the silver to bring back the shine.